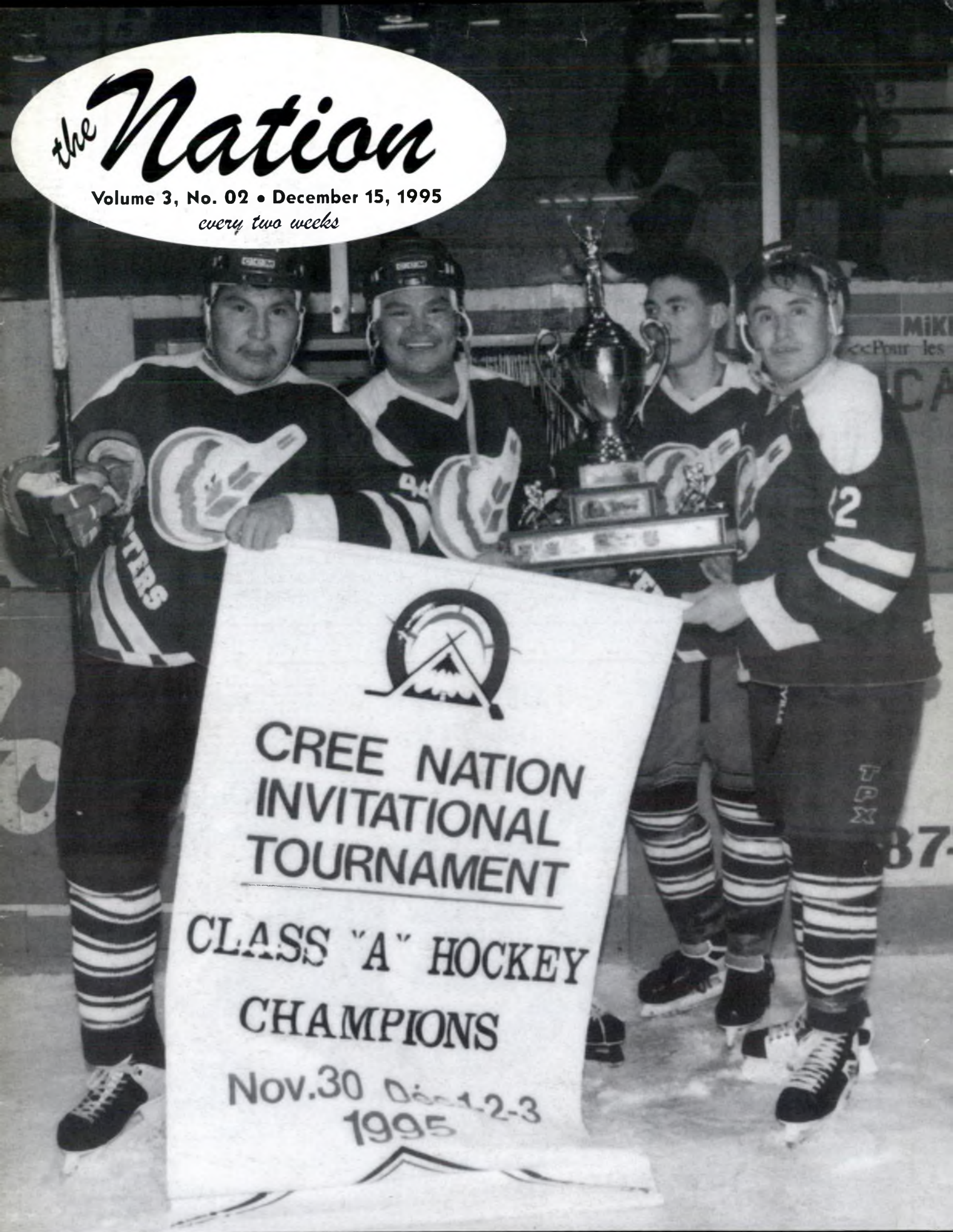
the Nation

Volume 3, No. 02 • December 15, 1995

every two weeks



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On October 24, I was in Oujé-Bougoumou to celebrate, with the Cree people and numerous guests, the awarding of the prestigious Habitat prize to the community by the United Nations.

The Québec government is proud that this prize was bestowed on a Native community in Québec. Much of the credit goes to Chief Abel Bosum and the entire Cree population, whom I thank and congratulate.

The Québec government was pleased to contribute some $26 million to the building of this village, which now serves as a model throughout the world.

On behalf of the Québec government, I also congratulate Mr. Albert Diamond, who has just received, from the Council for the Advancement of Native Development Officers (CANDO), one of the five First Annual Recognition Awards for Outstanding Contributions and Achievements in Native Economic Development in Canada. This well deserved recognition underscores Mr. Diamond's competence and work.

The Cree and all the Native nations of Québec can be certain that the Québec government will continue to respect its commitments to them and will pursue its work toward encouraging greater autonomy while providing tangible support for their development in the framework of a partnership.

David Cliche
Parliamentary Assistant to the Prime Minister
for Native Affairs

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Happy & Safe Holidays from the Nation Staff

Contents

NEWS

5 **Diabetes epidemic**
Community solutions needed

5 **Where Canada stands**
Irwin's startling confession

7 **It lives!**
Quévillon's back

7 **Briefs ✷ MLNQ,**
Natives multiply fruitfully

COVER

10 **Val d'Or #14 action**
Hunters bag Class A prize

HOLIDAYS

17 **Traditional X-mas**
Story by Nellie Bearskin-House

SPORTS

23 **Kickboxer Melvin Murray**
Title shot at Kobudomania

LETTERS

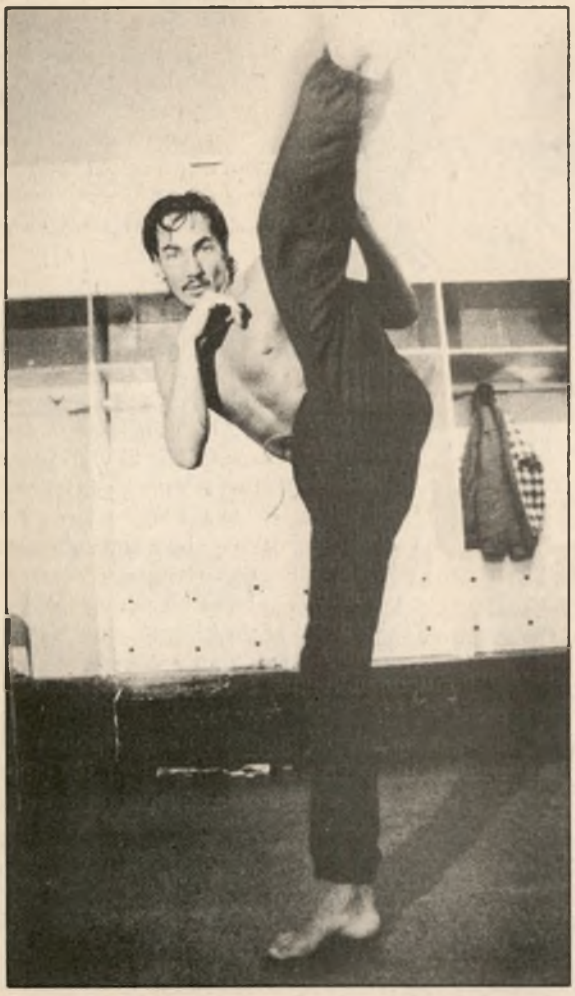
6 **We love your letters**
Keep 'em coming!

COVER: Val d'Or Tournament Class A winners, Chisasibi Hunters. *Photo courtesy: Camera Expert Val d'Or*

December 15, 1995

REZ NOTES

Once again *Rez Notes* finds itself at a loss for words a scant few hours before another deadline. A desperate scramble in the form late phone calls, intense scans through the paper, vicious interrogations of *Nation* staff and just plain fiction dug up the following.



But is it good to the last drop? A new coffee has just been launched. Coffee Guys, a coffee drinkers newsletter, reports that Kopi Luwak is made from coffee cherries "recovered from the feces of the paradoxurus, a small tree dwelling marsupial." I think what they're trying to tell us politely is the animal eats coffee cherries and excretes them out intact and they roast them up "real nice." The price for one cup of this brew? Only five dollars. That works out to $110 a pound. Order yours today.

Now that we've got your undivided attention, did you hear the one about this guy who "borrowed" several thousand dollars from an airline's cargo and went on a shopping spree? The authorities are, no doubt, investigating.

News from the environmental front. A Chisasibi Eeyou has a camp practically in the shadow of one of the largest Hydro electric installations in the world. But does he subscribe to the service? Oh no, he's smart. He uses solar power. Yes, he's got a panel set up and he's absorbing those rays. Let's all be like **"Daniel"** and follow his example. Actually, his name is **Charlie**.

Oowahh!! A Hong Kong newspaper pulled a *"Nunatsiaq News"* when it published a photograph of **Lucien Bouchard** and his significant American other, **Audrey Best**. South China Morning Post identified the extremely happy couple as the terrible twosome of Britain's "House of Horrors" fame. The headline went, "Cheerful, Charming Odd-jobman West Driven by Sex and Sadism." It might be apocryphal but it's said that Bouchard is planning on pulling a **"Mellow Ronnie"** and taking the Post to court.

Hello-o-o: Some bright architect in Chisasibi forgot an important lesson from Architecture 101 when he designed too large foundations for the trailers they transported from Radisson. We are told.

From the car radio: The always rude radio advice host "Dr." **Laura Schlesinger** had the gall to order a caller seeking her help to put out her cigarette. Radio's answer to **Ann Landers** can be heard on CKIS Oldies 990, weekday evenings at seven.

Last and most likely least, Val d'Or shook again as hordes of outsiders descended upon the "city." Terrified citizens looked on as the invaders laid waste their streets, restaurants and, of course, the bars. Violence erupted at the **Chateau 80** between two large groups as yet unidentified. Maybe it's just as well. You don't want to mess with guys of that ilk. Coincidentally, there was also a hockey tournament the same weekend. Many scored both on and off the ice.

Ndiamon

the Nation

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DIABETES EPIDEMIC ALARMS HEALTH STAFF

A diabetes epidemic is spreading through the Cree communities because of poor diet, inadequate exercize and lack of information about the problem, warn health experts.

The number of Crees with diabetes is 150 times greater today than it was 20 years ago and rising steadily.

"Everybody I've talked to is diagnosing it left, right and centre," said Mavis Verronneau, a diabetes education consultant with the Cree Health Board.

Verronneau said Crees lack proper information about the affliction. "Probably the biggest obstacle is getting people aware they need more information."

At the moment, the entire Cree Territory has only one dietician, a number Verronneau said is woefully inadequate. Simple things like eating a balanced diet and going for a regular walk are the best ways of avoiding diabetes, she said.

No one knows what causes diabetes, but it is generally more present among Cree women and in communities closer to the south. Altogether, 429 Crees have diabetes, according to the latest survey by the Health Board done in 1993. That's compared to only three individuals in 1975.

The survey found Waswanipi and Waskaganish have the highest rate—8 per cent of residents have diabetes. In both communities, 11 per cent of women have it.

Mistissini and Eastmain are next at 7 per cent, followed by Nemaska (4 per cent), Wemindji and Chisasibi (3 per cent) and Whapmagoostui (2 per cent). No figures are available yet from Ouje-Bougoumou.

Another survey is presently under way and Verronneau warned that the numbers are sure to be higher. "Guaranteed."

She added that for every person diagnosed with diabetes, there is another who is unaware he or she has it. "People go for years without being diagnosed. The numbers are always inaccurate."

The type of diabetes common among Crees can go unnoticed for 15 years. It usually sets in after age 40.

Once it sets in, it can cause blindness, impotence and loss of circulation to the feet, which can mean amputation.

In advanced cases, the diabetic is often permanently hospitalized and their blood cleansed by a dialysis machine every two or three days. At present, seven individuals are in the Chisasibi Hospital due to complications from diabetes.

Verronneau said solutions have to come at the community level—for example, through organizing walking clubs and building walking paths.

"You don't need pills and you don't need the clinic. You need to make it a community program instead of us people coming from the south with solutions."

Across Canada, 19 per cent of Native people are thought to have diabetes, compared to a Canadian average of 10 per cent.

by Alex Roslin

IRWIN ADMITS SIDING WITH IRAQ

Canada is siding with some of the world's worst dictatorships to slow down recognition of Native rights by the United Nations, Indian Affairs Minister Ron Irwin has admitted.

"Major numbers of countries that commit atrocities are trying to slow down the process," Irwin said in an interview with journalists from First Nations media on Nov. 28.

Asked if Canada is siding with those countries, which include Iraq and Brazil, Irwin replied: "For different reasons. We want to move ahead with clarity. They don't want to move ahead at all."

Talks have been under way for several years at the UN on an international charter of indigenous peoples' rights.

First Nations leaders say Canada is taking the lead in a behind-the-scenes effort along with human-rights abusers like Iraq, Brazil and Indonesia to delay the process and water down the charter.

Until Irwin's comments, federal officials denied the allegations and maintained that Canada fully supports recognition of Native rights.

Irwin's comments are the first official statement to lend credence to the claims.

In a two-hour teleconference interview, Irwin also addressed a wide variety of other issues, including the Quebec referendum.

Asked if Canada owes Natives for their role in winning it for the federalist side, Irwin said: "Certainly, I think we owe First Nations." After a pause, he added, "Not owe... I think we cannot *forget* First Nations issues across the country."

Irwin was also asked if he is troubled by the rise in standoffs between Natives and police since the Liberals came to office.

"It goes from month to month. It's not too bad this month. We have to do some healing and this has to be done," he said.

"I understand the frustrations. But we have to keep the process intact. We can't keep going off on a tangent every time someone sets up a roadblock."

As for the First Nations housing crisis, Irwin admitted the situation "is not good," but made no promises: "We've tried our best to put all our commitments into play across Canada. It hasn't been easy, but we're trying our best."

—*Alex Roslin*

Too bad he got traded

Letter to *The Nation*:

First of all, I just want to say that in your issue of *The Nation*, Vol. 3, No. 1, Dec. 1, 1995, the cover page was the best yet. Patrick Roy on the cover page. Nice. It made my day. Secondly, a little booboo on page 13 of your issue. Your stats stated that in the category "Opposing player had a penalty shot. Away: Keith Jones, Washington, Nov. 1/95 vs. Patrick Roy."

It wasn't Patrick Roy. The goaltender at the time was Patrick Labreque. But other than that keep up the good work.

True Montreal Fan,
Charlie Loon

Meegwetch

Letter to *The Nation*:

Having lived and worked in the Cree Territory for over six years, I appreciate receiving your magazine that enables me to keep in touch with the latest Cree news. Congratulations to *The Nation* and its staff.

Meegwetch for a regular view of the other side of the coin.

Michel Plouffe

The Nation appreciates your letters! Fat ones, skinny ones, tall ones, short ones. Er... that's it.

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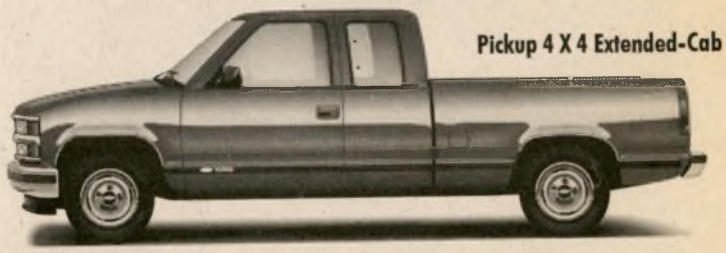

Pickup 4 X 4 Extended-Cab

"GIFT FROM THE STARS": QUÉVILLON BOOMS

There is good news and bad news for the rabbits of the Lebel-sur-Quévillon area.

The good news is that the rabbit population is multiplying.

The bad news is that it's multiplying because no one wants to eat them. Massive pollution from the forestry operations that are the backbone of Quévillon's economy has contaminated the local population of rabbits and other animals. Trappers report finding white spots on their lungs.

And the problems may now get worse very fast.

Logging and mining companies are in the middle of a major expansion that has turned Quévillon from a near ghost town into the Klondike of Northern Quebec.

In the next 24 months, these companies will invest $400 million in spiffing up their facilities in town. One company, Domtar, is putting in $250 million of that amount.

In four years, the town's jobless rate has fallen from 16 to 0 per cent. Quévillon's is brimming with newly arrived residents.

"It's going very, very well," Gérald Lemoine, mayor of Lebel-sur-Quévillon, told *The Nation*. "It's like a gift from the stars."

How will this expansion affect the environment? Will it mean more pressure on Cree traplines?

Henri Jacob, a long-time ecologist in Val d'Or, is worried. "It's unsustainable that they can cut forests at that rate," he said.

Jacib said forestry companies want to expand operations because wood prices are high. And with the new investments, they will be looking deeper and deeper in the Cree Territory to sustain their operations, he warned.

"If they invest that amount of money, they're going to need new trees from somewhere. And I don't see much left around Quévillon."

Jimmy Moore, economic development agent in Waswanipi, said forestry should be urgently discussed at the community's next general assembly in January. One of his biggest concerns is Domtar's proposed N-822 logging road that will open up virgin forests northwest of Waswanipi.

"Now it's open season for everything and we can't even say anything about the projects on Category II land," he said.

Domtar spokeswoman Lise Paradis insisted that the company's rate of tree-cutting is not about to increase. She said the new road will sustain existing operations in Matagami and the $250 million spent in Quévillon will make facilities there more environment-friendly and modern.

"With the same trees, we'll be able to make more good lumber," she said.

Paradis said Domtar is willing to sit down with Crees to hear their concerns. "Surely there are ways of arriving at a compromise."

But Moore is unconvinced. As an environmental administrator in Waswanipi the 1980s, he remembers telling loggers where moose yards were located, expecting they would be left uncut. Instead, the trees were cut anyway and the loggers even went to the moose yards to hunt.

"When you tell them something, they don't listen. They already made up their minds about what they're going to do."

by Alex Roslin

SEPARATISTS PROMISE "UNRELENTING STRUGGLE"

A new separatist group has emerged that promises to "ostracize" opponents of Quebec sovereignty and use protest tactics such as "occupation" of stores that do not obey Quebec's language law, Bill 101.

The secretive group's president says the movement is not terrorist, but warned that some activities could degenerate into violence.

The Mouvement de Libération Nationale du Québec is seeking a moratorium on immigration to Quebec, "unrelenting struggle" against Canadian domination and "internal enemies," and an all-French school system.

Its founding president, Raymond Villeneuve, was sentenced to 12 years in prison for his activities as a member of the Front de Libération du Québec.

News of the creation of the new group came shortly after sovereigntist Pierre Bourgault accused Jews, Greeks and Italians of being "racist" for opposing sovereignty.

NATIVE POPULATION TO SKYROCKET

There's going to be a heck of a lot more Natives around pretty soon.

The First Nations population of Canada will rise by almost 50 per cent in the next 25 years, according to Statistics Canada.

The increase is the result of falling infant mortality rates and rising life expectancy, says a study put out by the agency.

Nevertheless, the study also says that even in 25 years, Native life expectancy is expected to still be significantly lower than the Canadian average. Today's rate of 66.9 years for Native men is expected to rise to 72.9 years by 2016, and for aboriginal women life expectancy will increase from 74 years to 80.1 years.

For the average Canadian male, life expectancy will increase from 74.6 to 78.5 years, and for women, from 80.9 to 84 years, says the study.

By the year 2016, Canada will be home to 1.6 million First Nations people, up from 1.1 million in 1991.

The total Canadian population is expected to increase by just 32 per cent,

continued on page 9

EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

Moving from Unemployment to Employment Insurance

The federal government is proposing an *Employment Insurance (EI)* system. This system would continue to provide Canadians with basic income protection, as does the present UI system. It would also include a range of new employment measures to help people get jobs.

Here are some of the proposed changes:

INCOME BENEFITS

Every hour of work would be insurable

EI would calculate the length of time claimants would get benefits based on the number of hours, not weeks, they have worked. This would mean thousands more part-time workers could insure their income.

Every dollar earned would count

EI would calculate the amount of benefits on every dollar earned over a fixed period of time which will usually be longer than is presently the case. As a result, there will be a stronger incentive to maximize earnings during this period to qualify for a better insurance benefit in the event a claim is made.

An "insurance" program

Under *EI*, the basic benefit rate would remain at 55% of the maximum insurable earnings, which would be set at $750 per week compared to the existing $815. However, the benefits would be reduced by a maximum of five percentage points for repeat claims. Claimants with an annual income of $48,750 or more would have to reimburse a portion of their benefits.

Claimants would be allowed to earn up to $50.00 per week, or 25% of their *EI* benefit, whichever is higher, without reducing their benefits.

Family income supplement

A family income supplement would be available to those families with children and with annual earnings of less than $26,000. This supplement could represent up to 80% of a claimant's insured income, as compared to 60% at present.

Gradual implementation

Some of these changes would be introduced gradually in regions with a high unemployment rate. These regions would also benefit from a jobs fund to help them make the transition.

EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

Employment Insurance would include the following five proven employment measures to help people get back to work:

1. Wage subsidies: For employers to help hire unemployed workers.
2. Earnings supplements: A temporary wage top-up to encourage workers to get into the workforce sooner.
3. Self-Employment Assistance: Services to help unemployed people start their own businesses.
4. Job Creation Partnerships: Work experience projects through community organizations in collaboration with the provinces.
5. Skills, Loans and Grants: Province-approved assistance given directly to unemployed people to pursue skills training.

REDUCING OVERLAP AND DUPLICATION

The federal government would work in concert with provincial governments to implement *EI's* new employment measures. With the provincial governments, it would focus on what works, reducing overlap and duplication.

To get a brochure on Canada's proposed Employment Insurance system call 1 800 276-7655, or look on the Internet at http://www.hrdc-drhc.gc.ca
TTY 1 800 465-7735

Human Resources Development Canada
Développement des ressources humaines Canada

Canada

continued from page 7

from today's 28 million to 37 million.

The study also says more Native people than ever will be of working age and will need jobs. The author calls on Canada to provide adequate job training for Natives and "reduce barriers to employment."

"The projected increase of aboriginal population in the labour-force age groups is clearly an issue that needs to be addressed by aboriginal leaders and police makers alike."

In Quebec, according to Statistics Canada, the number of people with Native ancestry was 153,200 in 1991 and will reach 212,800 in 2016.

EASTMAIN HOSTS SPEAKING CONTEST

This year, Wabannutao Eyou School staff hosted the CSB Regional Public Speaking Contest. This event was held on Tuesday, November 21 in the school gymnasium.

For this competition, there were three language categories: Cree, English and French.

There were 14 contestants participating in the event. Schools in Chisasibi, Whapmagoostui, Nemaska, Waskaganish, Mistissini and Waswanipi were represented.

Approximately 150 people attended this event. The evening began with a banquet, followed by the speeches. Under the guidance of Rita Gilpin, the Eastmain Youth Dancers performed some square dances during the intermission while we waited for the judges to tabulate the scores and choose the winners.

Topics covered everything from Elders to youth, drugs and alcohol, culture, personal growth and political developments.

There were cash prizes, as well as a trophy prize for the school with the most points overall. Cash prizes were as follows: Maggie Matoush (1st Cree sector, $1,000), Edward Diamond (1st English sector, $1,000), Leigh-Ann Gates (1st French sector, $1,000), Mary J. Blueboy (2nd Cree, $500), Jonathan Hollands (2nd English, $500), Louise Coon-Come (2nd French, $500), Lisa Bobbish (3rd Cree, $300), Mary Nicquanicappo (3rd English, $300) and Melanie Dixon-Gilpin (3rd French, $300).

Mistissini's Voyageur Memorial School won the trophy prize for the highest points. Following the contest, there was a teen dance for the participants sponsored by our Student Council and Brighter Future Program Organizers.

The Organizing Committee members, Rose D. Gilpin, Patricia Ross, Josephine Gilpin, Brenda Cheezo, Marjorie Mark and Beatrice Gilpin-Mayappo, did a great job in the organization of the event.

Everyone had an enjoyable evening with the speakers, dancers and the banquet.

I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank the Organizing Committee and the other people who helped out in any way to make the evening a success. Wabannutao Eyou School staff and students were proud to host this regional event for the first time.

—Dorothy Gilpin, School Principal, Wabannutao Eyou School

Happy Holidays!

THE NATIVE FRIENDSHIP CENTRE OF MONTREAL

would like to thank

MR. PAUL YAPHE

of *Perfection Rug* for the generous donation of 1500 square feet of carpeting, which was needed in the new NFCM facilty. We were put in contact with Perfection Rug through MR. IRWIN FELDMAN who has been a dependable volunteer with the centre for the past six months. The NFCM is grateful for the support given by Irwin Feldman and Perfection Rug.

2001 St. Laurent, Montreal, PQ. H2X 2T3

CREE NATION INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT

Nov. 30 - Dec. 3, 1995

THE RESULTS

THURSDAY, NOV. 30 GAMES

B	4 Nemaska	Waskaganish No NBR 4
B	3 Wem. Slyfoxes	Wasw. Ex-Chiefs 5
B	6 Ouje. Young Guns	Eastmain 2
BB	0 Wask. Starlites	Wemindji 2
BB	0 Pikogan	Nemaska 0
BB	2 Eastmain	Rapid Lake 3
B	1 L.S. Blackhawks	Barrier Lake 2
B	5 Kahnawake	Maniwaki Braves 6
B	2 Pikogan Mohigans	Chis. Warriors 4
B	5 Peawanuck	Village Huron 7
OT	6 Wemindji	Lac Simon O/T's 4
OT	0 Maniwaki	Chis. Relics 1
OT	5 Waswanipi	Mist. R. Blades 0
OT	3 Wask. Warriors	Eastmain 0
BB	1 Wasw. Northern St.	L.S. Queens 0
BB	3 Barrier Lake	Lac Simon 20
BB	3 Ouje-Bougoumou	Senneterre NFC 0
C	3 Chis. Ex-Hunters	Waswanipi 5
C	1 Ouje-Bougoumou	Wemindji 4
C	1 Wask. Ex-Wings	Lac Simon 1
B	2 Whap. Tomahawks	M.F. North Stars 3

FRIDAY, DEC. 1 GAMES

B	8 Whap. Tomahawks	Nemaska 0
B	0 M.F. North Stars	Waskaganish NBR 3
B	2 Wem. Slyfoxes	Ouje Young Guns 2
B	11 Wasw. Ex-Chiefs	Eastmain 1
C	4 Chis. Ex-Hunters	Wemindji 8
C	3 Waswanipi	Wask. Ex-Wings 3
C	1 Ouje-Bougoumou	Lac Simon 0
BB	1 Wasw. Northern St.	Lac Simon 2 0
BB	2 L.S. Queens	Ouje-Bougoumou 0
BB	9 Barrier Lake	Senneterre NFC 0
BB	2 Pikogan	Rapid Lake 2
A	2 Mist. Trappers	M.F. Scrappers 5
A	9 Chis. Hunters	Wask. Wings 2
A	5 Wem. Wolves	Wasw. Chiefs 7
B	11 Wasw. Ex-Chiefs	Ouje Young Guns 1
OT	1 Wemindji	Maniwaki 0
OT	5 Lac Simon O/T's	Chis. Relics 2
OT	1 Waswanipi	Wask. Warriors 3
OT	10 Mist. Rusti-Blades	Eastmain 0
B	2 Barrier Lake	Maniwaki Braves 2
B	2 L.S. Blackhawks	Kahnawake 5
B	6 Pikogan Mohigans	Peawanuck 4
B	0 Chis. Warriors	Village Huron 7
BB	2 Wask. Starlites	Nemaska 0
BB	4 Wemindji	Eastmain 0
B	2 Whap. Tomahawks	Waskaganish No NBR 6
B	10 M.F. North Stars	Nemaska 0
B	9 Wem. Slyfoxes	Eastmain 4

SATURDAY, DEC. 2 GAMES

C	6 Chis. Ex-Hunters	Lac Simon 3
C	1 Wemindji	Wask. Ex-Wings 2
OT	1 Lac Simon O/T's	Maniwaki 0
B	1 L.S. Blackhawks	Maniwaki Braves 2
B	0 Pikogan Mohigans	Village Huron 1
A	7 Mist. Trappers	Wask. Wings 3
A	4 M.F. Scrappers	Wem. Wolves 2
A	6 Chis. Hunters	Wasw. Chiefs 3
BB	2 Wemindji	Pikogan 0
BB	3 Nemaska	Eastmain 0

CLASS 'C' HOCKEY SEMI-FINALS

C	2 Chis. (4th place)	Wasw. 4 (1st place)
C	1 Wask. (3rd)	Wem. 5 (2nd place)
A	5 Mist. Trappers	Wasw. Chiefs 4
A	3 M.F. Scrappers	Chis. Hunters 4
A	8 Wask. Wings	Wem. Wolves 5

CLASS 'B' HOCKEY QUARTER-FINALS

B	2 Wem. Slyfoxes (2nd Div. 2)	Wask. No NBR 3 (1st Div. 1)
B	3 Chis. Warriors (2nd Div. 4)	Maniwaki 0 (1st Div. 3)
C	3 Waswanipi	Ouje-Bougoumou 0
OT	4 Wemindji	Chis. Relics 2
OT	9 Waswanipi	Eastmain 0
OT	2 Mist. Rusti-Blades	Wask. Warriors 2
B	3 Barrier Lake	Kahnawake 4
B	6 Chis. Warriors	Peawanuck 1
BB	3 Wask. Starlites	Rapid Lake 1
BB	10 Wasw. Northern St.	Senneterre NFC 0
BB	1 L.S. Queens	Barrier Lake 1
BB	0 Lac Simon 2	Ouje-Bougoumou 1

PHOTOS COURTESY OF: CAMERA EXPERT VAL D'OR

HUNTERS DIDN'T GO HOME EMPTY-HANDED

- CINCH CLASS A PRIZE

THE RESULTS

OLDTIMERS' HOCKEY SEMI-FINALS

OT	4 Waswanipi (2nd Div. 2)	Wemindji 4 (1st Div. 1)
OT	0 Lac Simon (2nd Vis. 1)	Barrier Lake 1 (2nd Div. 2)

BROOMBALL QUARTER-FINALS

BB	2 L.S. Queens (4th Div. 2)	Wemindji 4 (1st Div. 1)
BB	0 Nemaska (3rd Div. 1)	Barrier Lake 1 (2nd Div. 2)
BB	1 Rapid Lake (4th Div. 1)	Was. N. Stars 2 (1st Div. 2)
BB	1 Ouje (3rd Div. 2)	Wask. Starlites 3 (2nd Div. 1)

CLASS 'B' HOCKEY QUARTER-FINALS

B	5 M.F. North Stars (2nd Div. 1)	Was. Ex-Chiefs 2 (1st Div. 2)
B	3 Kahnawake (OT) (2nd Div. 3)	Village Huron 4 (1st Div. 4)

SUNDAY, DEC. 3 GAMES

BROOMBALL SEMI-FINALS

BB	2 Wemindji	Barrier Lake 0
BB	1 Waswanipi N.S.	Wask. Starlites 0

CLASS 'B' SEMI-FINALS

B	5 Wask. No NBR	Chis. Warriors 1
B	3 M.F. North Stars	Village Huron 4

CLASS 'A' HOCKEY SEMI-FINALS

A	3 Was. Chiefs	Hunters 5
A	2 Mist. Trappers	M.F. Scrappers 3

OLDTIMERS' HOCKEY FINAL

2 Waswanipi	Waskaganish 1

CLASS 'C' HOCKEY FINAL

5 Waswanipi Thunder	Wemindji 2

BROOMBALL FINAL (OT)

1 Wemindji Wolverines	Waswanipi N.S. 2

CLASS 'B' HOCKEY FINAL

1 Wask. No NBR	Village Huron 3

CLASS 'A' HOCKEY FINAL (OT)

3 Chis. Hunters	M.F. Scrappers 2

Our thanks to: Ernie Moses, Jeff Spencer and Camera Expert. -Ed.

The Chisasibi Hunters were in fine form as they powered their way undefeated to win the Class A Championships at this year's Val d'Or tournament.

A 9-2 win over the Waskaganish Wings set the pace on Friday. The next day it was the Waswanipi Chiefs' turn to feel the pain, by a 6-3 margin. Later on the same day, the Hunters overpowered the Moose Factory Scrappers in a close 4-3 match.

It was on to the semi-finals and another crack at the Chiefs, who lost to the Hunters 5-3.

In the other semi-final game, the Scrappers took out the Mistissini Trappers in a heated bout. It was widely expected that these two superior teams would end up doing battle in the finals together. Alas, the Trappers were eliminated and the Hunters would take their place.

The Moose Factory-Chisasibi final game was fierce and went into overtime. In the end, it was the Hunters again who dominated 3-2, with great goaltending by Chisasibi's Stanley Kitty, winner of the Best Goaltending award.

The game was on everybody's lips afterwards.

"Prior to the tournament, I had predicted Mistissini versus Moose Factory. No one ever predicted Chisasibi to win," commented Ernie Moses, organizer of the tournament.

"We had a great time. There were no blowouts. They were close games. No casualties, no incidents," he said.

"The finals were good in almost every aspect, from the Oldtimers to Class A and Broomball, which also went into overtime."

Ernie said he was getting the itch to get into some skates himself as he watched the action. He saw icetime at the tourney as a forward and defenceman in the 1980s for the Class B Waskaganish team.

Two athletes really stood out: Dean Roach of Moose Factory, who picked up an award for Best Forward, and Glen Wadden of Chisasibi, who got the Most Valuable Player honour.

"Skating-wise, they were handling the puck really well. It was great to watch their skill and the type of hockey they showed, how they can accelerate and control the play," said Ernie.

In all, 48 teams participated from as far away as Kahnawake, Peawanuck, Manikawi and the Huron First Nation. In fact, the Village Huron team went all the way to capture the Class B Championships in a 3-1 victory over Waskaganish No NBR.

Opening up the tourney this year was Francine Weistche, who sang three songs that went over nicely with the audience.

And even those whose attention strayed at times to Val d'Or's legendary nitelife came back pleased with what transpired on their outings. According to reports. Ah, the memories, the memories.

—Alex Roslin

CREE NATION INVITATIONAL SENIOR HOCKEY AND BROOMBALL TOURNAMENT

On behalf of the Tournament Organizing Committee, I would like to thank all the sponsoring entities for their contributions to this year's tournament. Your support was a great reason for the overall success of this CNIT.

Ernie Moses
Head Director

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INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

OLDTIMERS' HOCKEY
Best Forward: Eric Weistche (Wask.)
Best Defence: Frank Blacksmith (Wasw.)
Best Goalie: Jim Hester (Wask.)
Best Coach: Waswanipi
Top Scorer: Norman Blacksmith (Mist.), 5G, 1A, 6Pts
M.V.P.: Eddie Happyjack (Waswanipi)

CLASS 'C' HOCKEY
Best Forward: Matthew Happyjack (Waswanipi)
Best Defence: Marlin Blackned (Wemindji)
Best Goalie: Smally Brien (Ouje-Bougoumou)
Best Coach: Merle Linklater (Wemindji)
Top Scorer: Bob Lameboy (Chis.), 5G, 3A, 8 Pts
M.V.P.: Matthew Ottereyes (Waswanipi)

BROOMBALL
Best Forward: Rachel Neeposh (Wemindji)
Best Defence: Jane Saganash (Waswanipi)
Best Goalie: Victoria Georgekish (Wemindji)
Best Coach: Wemindji
Top Scorer: Martina Ratt (Barrier Lake), 6G, 1A, 7 Pts
M.V.P.: Carol Kitchen (Waswanipi)

CLASS 'B' HOCKEY
Best Forward: Robert Auclair (Whapmagoostui)
Best Defence: Dave Latnee (Village Huron)
Best Goalie: Jesse Frank (Waskaganish)
Best Coach: Bob Patton (Waskaganish)
Top Scorer: Clarence Happyjack (Waswanipi), 9G, 4A, 13 Pts
M.V.P.: Denis Bastien (Village Huron)

CLASS 'A' HOCKEY
Best Forward: Dean Roach (Moose Factory)
Best Defence: Sterling Innes (Moose Factory)
Best Goalie: Stanley Kitty (Chisasibi)
Best Coach: Eddie Pash (Chisasibi)
Top Scorer: Samson Matches (Chisasibi), 6G, 4A, 10 Pts
M.V.P.: Glen Wadden (Chisasibi)

More photos on page 15

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Merry Christmas!

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December 16 and 17

It's been 20 years since the James Bay Northern Quebec Agreement was signed. But what impact has the agreement had on residents? **Maamuitaau** examines the benefits and setbacks on the region. Also, on **Maamuitaau Chis'chaayihtamoon** we profile singer Francine Weistche from Waskaganish.

December 23 and 24

Maamuitaau brings you a Christmas special from Waskaganish. Cree students from grade three join the elders in a traditional setting of outdoor activities...learning what Christmas was like and what it means. On **Maamuitaau Chis'chaayihtamoon** viewers will learn to prepare a traditional native recipe.

Watch **Maamuitaau:**

Saturdays	06:28	SRC
Sundays	07:00	CBMT
	18:00	SRC

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GUESS WHAT'S COMING?

Well, sure, Santa Claus, but there's more: The Nation's 1996 Cree Calendar!

Beautiful colour photos of Crees - maybe some one you know! - involved in traditional activities. In your Kitchen, bedroom or office, this calendar will brighten any room!

Look for the Calendar at the following stores by Mid-December:

WHAPMAGOOSTUI:	SANDY'S CORNER STORE
CHISASIBI:	NORTHERN
NEMASKA:	ROGER'S VIDEO
WEMINDJI:	NORTHERN
EASTMAIN:	NORTHERN
WASKAGANISH:	NORTHERN
MISTISSINI:	MEECHUM
OUJE-BOUGOUMOU:	CASEY'S STORE
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MOOSE FACTORY:	NORTHERN
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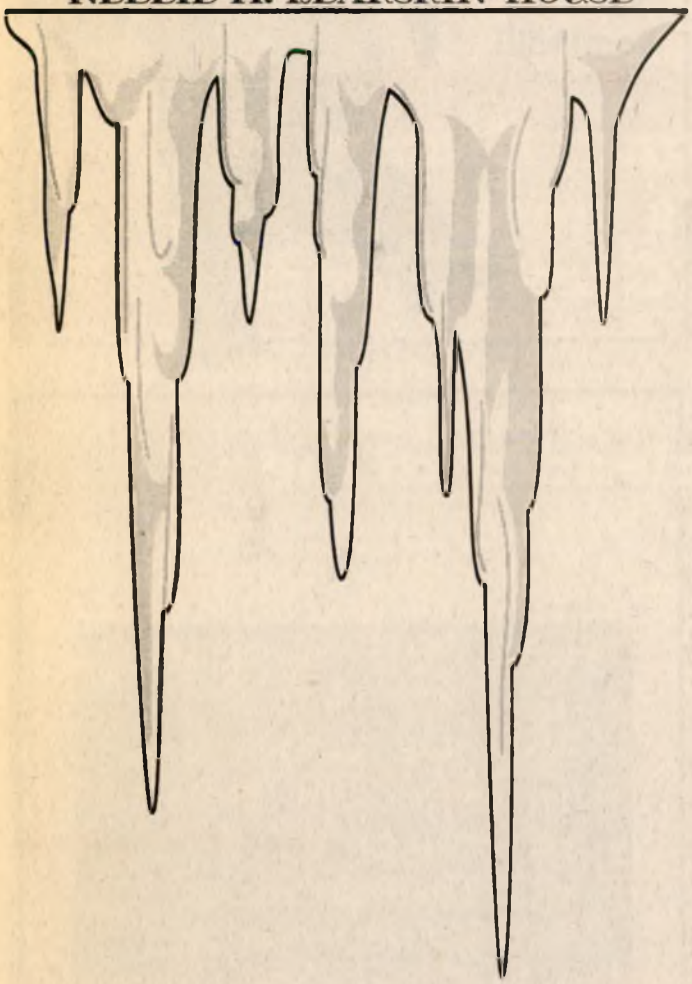
A BEAUTIFUL CHRISTMAS GIFT THAT LASTS ALL YEAR!

ONCE UPON A TRADITIONAL CHILDHOOD CHRISTMAS

WRITTEN AND REMEMBERED BY:
NELLIE M. BEARSKIN-HOUSE



I remember a traditional childhood Christmas with my loving parents, my big sisters Jane and Sarah, my littlest sister Irene and most of all my big brother Samuel whom I adored with all my heart.

I remember another family who was spending the winter with us. Another family with many small children. I remember the day, the evening before this big, big event.

Now, closing my eyes, I hear my father talking very loud about the beaver meat, the bear meat that has to be cooked all day to simmer in the biggest pots we owned. Talking about the bear fat that was still sitting outside in the tenderflake pail that he had previously preserved from the fall. Talking about my mother's blueberry jam that was also in those pails, still sitting outside, blueberry jam that was made by my mother's skillful, loving hands. Blueberries that we all helped to pick, remembering how on this eventful occasion, while picking them, we would taste our fruitful labours.

Now, I see my father going in and out of the teepee, getting and bringing things, moving around very fast in his usual manner.

Now, I smell the freshly picked boughs, still a bit damp from the snow that coated them from the first snowfall. All around the teepee they were laid out to cushion our bodies and minds. To smell and to hear the sparkling sound of wood burning in our beat-up woodstove that was in the centre of our teepee.

Seeing the teapot beside the old beat-up woodstove knowing in my heart how good, how delicious the freshly boiled tea is that was in the teapot at the moment.

Sitting now beside my loving, caring mother busily making the batter that was supposed to boil all day in a big pot, to make the Christmas cake.

The batter looked so delicious because of so many black raisins and seeing her frying up white sugar to put in her batter. I was about to jump into her huge big, batter bowl.

Seeing, smelling bannock slowly cooking on top of our beat-up woodstove. Little black stones located underneath the frying pan for the bannock not to burn.

All day and all evening, I saw many people being so busy preparing for something so special, or someone so special.

Helping each other with joy, cooking, chopping wood, getting the teepee to look just perfect to welcome these special people. I remember a nice tablecloth with red flowers printed on the material. This was kept in a secret place and only used for very, very special occasions.

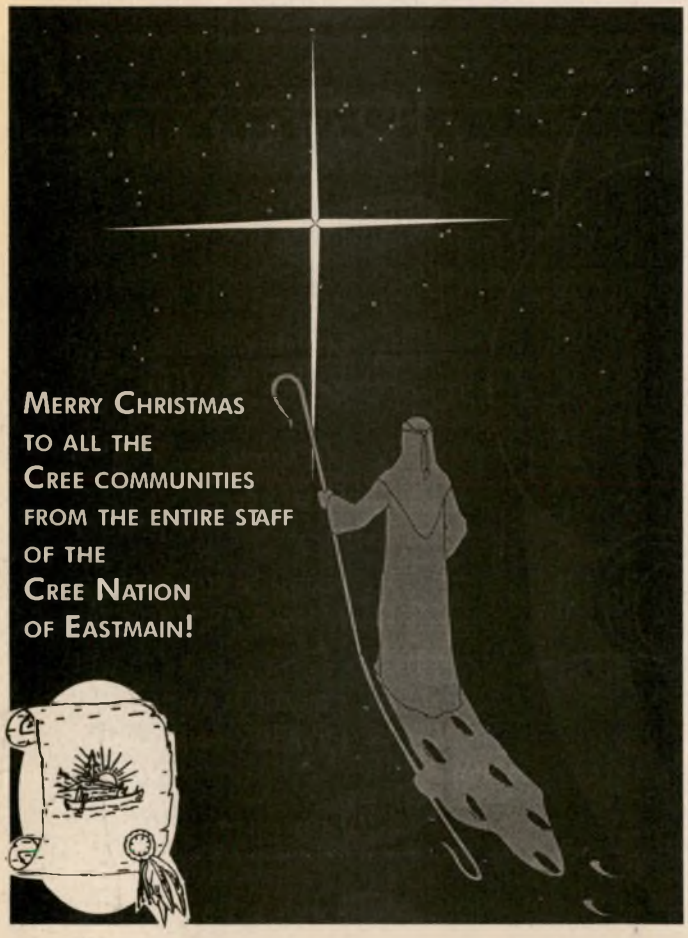
Cont'd on page 21

Wishing all of the Cree Nations a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Peace and harmony to all!

Chief William Mianscum and Councillors, Staff and Members

Cree Nation of Mistissini
187 Main St.
Mistissini Lake,
Qc.
G0W 1C0

MERRY CHRISTMAS 1995
to all the Cree communities from the staff and council of the Cree Nation of Wemindji!

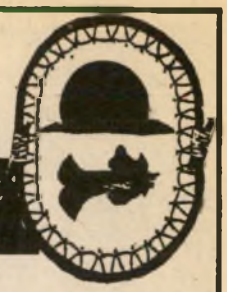


MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL THE CREE COMMUNITIES FROM THE ENTIRE STAFF OF THE CREE NATION OF EASTMAIN!

THE WHAPMAGOOSTUI FIRST NATION WISHES TO EXTEND A WARM, SINCERE, HEARTFELT AND SAFE CHRISTMAS TO ALL FIRST NATIONS. MAY THE CREATOR WATCH OVER YOU AND GUIDE YOU. HAVE A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!

Cree Nation of Chisasibi

Cree Nation of Chisasibi
would like to wish
everyone a very
Merry Christmas and
a prosperous
New Year!



FROM THE PEOPLE OF THE
NEMISCAU FIRST NATION

WE WISH YOU ALL
A **HEALTHY CHRISTMAS** AND
A **HAPPY** HOLIDAY SEASON.

The Nemiscau First Nation has had a very successful and fulfilling 1995. Our community continues to grow and prosper through a program of measured healthy steps toward our goal of a well balanced community for families. We are proud of our successes but are aware that the process of change is one of hard and consistent work. We congratulate all those people who have put so much effort and heart into their own healthy lives - as those people are our models for tomorrow.

The People of Ouje-Bougoumou extend their best wishes for a

Merry Christmas
and a
Happy and
Healthy New Year

to all our friends and relatives throughout Eenou Astchee and other areas of Canada.

To: All First Nations Friends and Colleagues

In the spirit of Friendship, we extend our best wishes for a safe and joyous Christmas. May the New Year of 1996 be a season of peace and joy.

From: Chief Billy Diamond
Waskaganish First Nation Council
and Members of the
Waskaganish First Nation

1996
THE YEAR OF THE CHILD
IN NEMISCAU

To All Members of the Nemiscau First Nation and Residents of Nemiscau:

It is with great anticipation that the Chief and Council of the Nemiscau First Nation announce that 1996 is to be a celebration of the child and childhood. We are proposing this action so as to give all services and programs which operate in the Nemiscau community an opportunity to develop and deliver programs and projects which are aimed at the Nemiscau resident who is between the ages of infanthood and twelve years of age.

We are looking for ideas which will give our children new experiences and challenge their imaginations. All programs should be able to enrich the child's life while encouraging him or her to learn and explore personal skills which may not have been previously noted.

Our children are our greatest resource and we need to celebrate their childhood as a time of exploration and joy.

In 1996, look for programs and services, training sessions and workshops which will help us all to ensure that each child who lives in Nemiscau will have a healthy, safe and joyous childhood experience.

Chief George Wapachee
Cree Nation of Nemiscau

...CHILDHOOD CHRISTMAS

Now my memories fade, no memories of going to bed, going to sleep.

But I recall the morning after so well in my heart. Opening my drowsy eyes to a small tied-up brown package hanging just above my head, tied to one of the poles. Oh yeah, I was sleeping with my big sister Jane.

I got up so fast, hearing my big sister Jane's voice, not paying attention. I grabbed the small package, pulling it so hard I think at that moment the string broke. I fell into the warmth of my goose-down blanket, with my big sister Jane. I was so happy, so excited, at that special moment, I was the only human being existing in this world with my small tied-up brown package.

After I untied the string, inside the brown package was a lonely chocolate bar. I think it was an "Oh Henry" or a "Snack bar." This lonely chocolate bar was my pride and joy for that special Christmas moment.

I felt very blessed and very special, and very, very rich.

Now, my heart is full of sadness, my tears are starting to flow. Because my heart is very happy for this special Christmas journey I took with all you people who are reading my traditional Christmas story.

Once Upon a Traditional Childhood Christmas has passed into time, only to live in my heart.

I cry now for my traditional childhood, that special joyous time of my life to have been blessed with or given my traditional childhood.

I cry now for my loving, caring parents to have known them for only a brief moment on this earth, 10 years of my life. But they have left me the values of love, honesty, family togetherness and that one special magic Christmas that I will cherish forever in my heart.

I cry now for my heritage that is slowly starting to fade because of a materialist world of money, of competing over who will have the biggest expensive gift this year. I cry now for Once Upon a Traditional Childhood Christmas that had taught me the truest of Christmases.

Dedicated with love to my very, very special children, Jody George House, Angela Bertha House, Derek Willy Daniel House and to our very, very special angel who has taught us to love ourselves, my grandmother Kyla Caroline House.

And also to all the people who have experienced a traditional childhood Christmas, and most of all to the young people who only can hear it through stories.

And especially, especially to the older generations who have taught us "a traditional Christmas."

From the staff at the Grand Council
of the Crees, we want to extend our
warmest wishes for you and your
family on this joyous occasion.
Remember drive safely.

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Grand Council of the Crees (of Quebec)
Grand Conseil des Cris (du Québec)

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CREE REGIONAL AUTHORITY
ADMINISTRATION RÉGIONALE CRIE

Melvin "The Mule" Murray: KickBoxer

NEIL DIAMOND

Mel stikes a pose

ERNEST WEBB

Victor "The Ukrainian Pitbull" Vargotsky

More photos on page 25

A lot of kids who grow up, especially mixed bloods, either get beat up a lot or learn how to fight. Melvin Murray learned how to fight.

Growing up in Prince George, B.C., was tough for Mel and his brother who are half Cree. "My brother looks more Native, he got into a lot more fights." At around age 15 his parents split up. His mother knew that her son had to take care of himself. She encouraged him to take up boxing. He boxed for three years before moving on to kickboxing.

He has been kickboxing for 12 years so far. He's tried Tae kwon do and karate but finds kickboxing more to his style. He says it "has the most contact of the martial arts."

He is 30 years old and weighs in at 148 lbs. He's been competing for 10 years with a record of 27-2 (8 ko's). His ring name is "The Mule" for his kicking ability. He is currently ranked fourth in the world in the welterweight class. Mel had fought and won in Montreal once before. He was back in Montreal for a title shot at the kickboxing extravaganza, Kobudomania.

This visit was not to be triumphant. He went against Victor "The Ukrainian Pitbull" Vargotsky, 21-5. Vargotsky, who is a local from the Tri-Star gym, proved why he was champ. He didn't flinch. Whatever Mel gave him didn't seem to faze him. It was scary. Kick after kick to the head and body proved to be not enough to get Vargotsky down.

In the end it was the close body shots which let him keep the title. After the 10 rounds Victor won with a 105-105, 101-105, 102-105 decision.

Also on the card was another local, also from Tri-Star. Conrad "Batman" Pla also proved why he was Champ. He fought for 10 or 11 rounds with a broken arm... Even scarier. His opponent, Orlando "The Warrior" Rivera from New York, put up a good fight. Even with a wicked punch Orlando couldn't take away the title.

Mel says the sport gives you a lot of discipline and improves you as a person. "With the trips out, I've seen different places and people and that has taught me how to interact with people and not be narrow-minded."

—Ernest Webb

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HEALTH CANADA TALKS TO YOU

Our mission
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Starting today, Health Canada is pleased to collaborate with *The Nation* on a series of articles. These articles will address important health issues, as well as inform you of the various programs and services the department is offering to all Canadians.

You may or may not be aware of it, but Health Canada is present in every part of every Canadian's life every day. Whether it's through health protection, product safety, food inspection, AIDS awareness, reduction of the demand for tobacco, prevention of drug and alcohol abuse, family violence or the protection of children and seniors at risk - every Canadian can benefit from the programs and services developed by Health Canada.

In the upcoming issues of *The Nation*, look for articles on such health issues as tobacco, nutrition, product safety, drug and alcohol abuse, Brighter Future and family violence.

HEALTH CANADA helps us all to help ourselves.

As Canadians, you'll find countless ways in which Health Canada is there for you. As Native Canadians, you'll find that there are funding projects specifically designed for your safety and security. One such program is *Brighter Future*, which is tailored to help Aboriginal children at risk have a better start in life. *Family Violence* and *Drugs and Alcohol* are also major programs offered to Native Canadians by Health Canada.

We hope to create more of an awareness about the choices that lead to a healthier and happier lifestyle for Canada's Aboriginal people, and we are pleased to speak to you about this through *The Nation*.

THIS SERIES IS BROUGHT TO YOU COURTESY OF:

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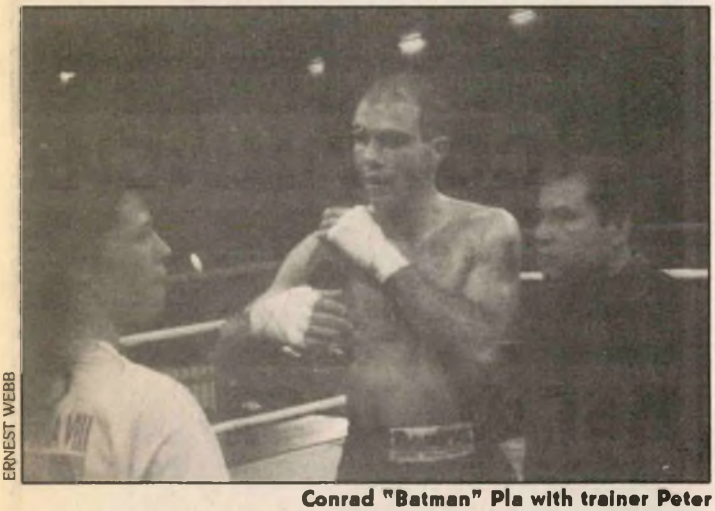
NEIL DIAMOND

Jean-Yves Theriault, who was the main attraction, wins his last fight. His record: 69-6-1 (61 ko's).



ERNEST WEBB

Conrad "Batman" Pia with trainer Peter

ERNEST WEBB

Mel

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PHONE 819-855-2415

Société de développement de la Baie James

The SDBJ is pleased to wish a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous 1996 to everyone contributing to the development of Northern Quebec.

La SDBJ est heureuse de souhaiter un très joyeux Noël et une année 1996 des plus prospères à toutes les personnes qui contribuent au développement du Nord-du-Quebec.

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100-BIRTHS

Congratulations to Brenda and Louis Sam who gave birth to a baby boy (the big monster) Samuel Lewis, born on November 9, 95. Weight, 11 lbs. 7 oz. P.S. Beware of Tin Tin's jealousy. From Sarah, John Sam and Family.

I want to say congratulations to my sis Sherry Ann and Reuben for bringing a baby boy to this world, Andy David Wapachee, born on Oct. 22, 95 at 10:02 a.m.. P.S. Sherry, thanx for bringing me my first nephew. Love always, Hannah. xoxoxoxo.

We would like to welcome our grandson and nephew Cody Jared Bernard John into our hearts. Congratulations Natalie. We are all happy for you. Love, Granny, Grandpa, Arita, Gerri, Sheldon, Derek, Beatrice and Jerry. Luv ya!

101-BIRTHDAYS

A special birthday wish goes out to a wonderful Dad and a loving guy in my life, Henry Mamianskum, on December 4th. Hope you have a wonderful day and all your wishes come true. Happy birthday and many more coming your way. With lots of hugs and kisses. Love always, Jacobsh and Harriet. xoxoxo. (Chisasibi).

Happy birthday to our son, Tyson Gull who's going to be 9 yrs. old on Nov. 30. Good luck on your hockey game during your birthday. Love, Stella, Paul, Jeremy and Cheyenne in Lethbridge, Alberta.

I would like to say happy birthday to my mother Linda Orr. Have a great time. Have fun on November 26, 1995. Best wishes! From your daughter, Katrina Orr. xoxoxoxoxo. (Nemaska)

Happy birthday to my first grandson Maverick Swallow on December 8. We love you so much. From ᑯᑊ ᓂᓇᒃ Swallow. XXX.

We would like to wish a happy birthday to Andrea Ann Moar on December 20. Have a wonderful birthday. Love always, Donald, Gloria, Victoria, Samson, Cynthia and Henry Wischee (Wask).

Happy birthday going out to someone special, my Dad Leonard Weistche on Dec. 4. I am so glad to have a loving and caring dad like you, I love you very much and you will always be in my heart. So, on this day, I want to wish you happy birthday and many more to come. With all my love and sloppy kisses from your daughter Taralyn W.

We would like to send our love to four wonderful granddaughters and nieces whom we miss very much, Amanda, Samantha, Hope and Dawn Grant. May the Great Spirit watch over you and guide you always. Our thoughts will be with you during this Christmas season. Love and kisses, the Grant family in Waswanipi, Quebec.

Wishing a very happy birthday to Juliet Sealhunter on Dec. 9 and to Sarah Sealhunter on Dec. 13. May you both have many more birthdays. Always remember that I love you both like my own daughters. All my love and kisses. From mother in law, Nellie.

To Rita Sealhunter, birthday is on Dec. 15. I will always remember you as the little girl who used to eat a piece of anybody's foam mattress. What did it taste like? Happy birthday and many more to come. From Margaret (Chis) P.S. Maggie still dances better...

Wishing a very happy birthday to Rita Sealhunter on Dec. 15. Always believe in your dreams and they will come true. Life is a precious gift in which everything is possible. Have a good time on your birthday. From Grandma Nellie. P.S. Is a foam mattress still as tasty as ever?

I would like to say happy birthday to Pierre Lemay on December 1st and to my uncle Gilbert Herodier on December 2nd and to my mom Nellie House Sr. on December 4th. Enjoy your birthday but don't overdo it.

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Love, from a friend and daughter, Sandra in Mtl.

We would like to wish our grandson Damon John Ryan a happy 1st birthday on Nov. 29. Love always, your grandparents, Fred and Elsie. (Wem)

We would like to wish a happy birthday to Damon Georgekish on Nov. 29 on his first b-day. Also to Delon, Ryan and Scott! From John, Frances, Gerri, Arita, Sheldon, Natalie and Cody.

Happy belated birthday wishes to my only friend, Pierre Lemay, on Dec. 1st. You were always there when I needed someone to talk to! and take care of yourself, don't overdo it! Have a wonderful birthday you old man (just kidding)! Take care bud! From a friend in Waskaganish. DS.

Happy birthday to my husband Steve on December 16, 95. Hope the Flyers win for you on your birthday!! Don't even think of having a party for yourself cause you're over the hill now! Love, your wife Donna S.

We would like to say happy birthday to our dad Steve on Dec. 16, 95. You are special to us and we love you. From your children, Cherish and Joel in Wask.

Happy birthday to John Blackned on November 24! If I were only close to you, I would give you a kiss (on the cheek that is). You are a great friend and a special cousin. I hope you have a great birthday. With love, Jean.

I would like to wish my mom, Charlotte, a happy 37th birthday on November 15th. Also my youngest sister Sheena. Hope you have a wonderful 12th birthday on Nov. 25. And a special birthday greeting to my grandma Annie on Nov. 26. With love always, Jean Elizabeth.

We'd like to send a special birthday greeting to our sister who is always in the middle. Well, you're 16 now and here's a little advice. Smiles are free so don't save them! Happy b-day on Dec. 1st Joy Dawn. From Jean and Sheena, sisters forever.

I would like to wish a very happy 20th birthday to George Coon-Come on Dec. 6, 95. Hope you enjoy your day. Love, FG. xoxoxoxo.

Happy 17th birthday to Sonia Mark on December 1st, 95. Hope you enjoy your special day and many more to come. From your friends, Bella and Florrie.

Sending happy birthday to my son Glen James Shecapio. His birthday is on November 20, 95. We miss you a lot and we love you even tho you are far from home but someone up above is always with you never leave you or forsake you. God will bless you in a special way.

Birthday greetings to my sisters, Jane on Dec. 10 and Helen on Dec. 18. Love always, Mary.

I wanna wish a happy birthday to two very special people, Lillian C. on Nov. 11 and Brian on Nov. 2 From Maggie C.

I wanna wish happy birthday to my sis Diane on Nov. 19 and to my bro George on Nov. 8. Guys, you are one more year older. Kidding. From Clarence in Rouyn and family. P.S. You take care, do you hear? (or do you read?)

We would like to wish a happy birthday to Tyson Gull in Lethbridge, Alberta. Have a nice day. We miss you guys. Hope to see you at Christmas. From Marlene, Albert, Juanita, Jari and Jolina. Hi Cheyenne.

This birthday wish is going out to our wonderful grandmother who is always there with a comforting smile. Our grandmother Lizzie Matoush will be celebrating her birthday on November. Happy birthday grandma and many more to come.

A birthday wish going out to our adorable son Josiah Coon who will be celebrating his 5th birthday on Nov. 2, 95. Love always, Mom, Dad and sis Jeraldene. My son, do not forget my law, but let your heart keep my commands; for length of days and long life and peace they will add to you. Proverbs 3: 1-2.

This birthday wish is going out to Jughead William. He will be celebrating his birthday on November ? So, Juggy, you're almost at the peak of the hill, no wonder the mid-life crisis is attacking you or are you just stuck at adolescence. Anyway , happy birthday and many more to come, many more babes also. Boy! I think you change your babes more often than you change your socks. From Big Ethel.

A special happy birthday wishes to our daughter, Jamie Jacob (Wask) on December 13. (11 years ago we held you in our arms, it was such a joy and blessing. Our first born child, how you've grown to a beautiful fine lady.) We love you very much. With love, Mom and Dad (Emma and Jimmy)

We would like to wish happy birthday to our sister Jamie Jacob (Baby Joy) on December 13. Have fun on your birthday! We'll celebrate!! With much love, Vanessa, Becky, Marina and Annalisa.

I would like to wish a happy birthday to my granddaughter Andrea

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Moar on December 20. I love you and take good care of yourself. From your grandmother, Ruby Wischee.

Birthday wishes going out to Jennifer H. Moses on December 18, Rodney Blueboy, December 13, Bertie Jacob, December 2 and Brian Whiskeychan on December 14. God bless you all! Love, Jimmy, Emma and girls.

I would like to wish a very happy birthday to George Morris Snowboy in Wemindji. Nov. 8 is the special day you were born and I had my first grandchild, you'll always hold a special place in my heart. Love and kisses from grandma Nellie (Chis).

Birthday greetings to Fredrick Sealhunter on Nov. 14. "I wonder if you told her about me?" Have a good time on your birthday. Remember, I'll always be here for you. All my love from grandma Nellie (Chis).

Special b-day greeting going out to Roland Snowboy on Nov. 17. Try not to gain too much weight. Stay away from Tim Horton's. We miss ya! and stay away from my daughter, Love always, Diane Shecapio.

This birthday wish is going out to a special person on November 11. Happy b-day 2 U. Happy b-day 2 Sarah. Happy b-day mom, hope you will be with us forever. U are the greatest. We will always love you. From Val. Shelley, Will and Pat.

Happy 2nd birthday to my nephew Brendan Jeremy Blackned on Nov. 18. May all your little dreams come true! (Chishawemiitanan Jeremy Boysh) From BDH (Wask).

A special happy belated birthday to our special pal, Francis Shecapio on Nov. 9. Happy 21st birthday! From your buddies, Mona Coonishish, Rachel Etapp. P.S. maybe, if you're lucky, we could take you for a ride!

We would like to wish a happy birthday to Shirley Blacksmith on Nov. 16, 95. Best wishes to both of you on your birthday and many more to come. From your friends, Bella and Florrie.

We would like to wish a happy 3rd birthday to Kerri-Ann Neeposh Blacksmith on Nov. 23, 95. May your birthday be as special as you are. With love from Renee and Taylor B.

I wanna wish a happy birthday to my cousin Angela in Wemindji on November 2. I really miss you and hope to see you soon on Christmas holidays. From your cousin Melanie.

I would like to wish a happy 3rd birthday to my grandson Joshua Joseph Ottereyes and also I would like to wish a happy anniversary to my son-in-law George and my daughter Nannette on Oct. 15th, 93. With love, Mom and Ronita.

I wanna wish a happy birthday to my sweet girl Ronita on Nov. 5th. Best wishes and many more to come. May God take good care of you. Love, Mom, Eva.

Happy birthday to the most important man in our lives Brian Ottereyes on Dec. 7th. You mean the world to us and most of all we love you. Love always, your girlfriend Charlene and your daughter Alyssa. xoxoxo (Wemindji)

Birthday wishes going out to Normansh "Boy" Bearskin who will be celebrating his 3rd birthday on Dec. 2nd, 1995. With love always, Mina and Lillian. Hugs and kisses.

Special birthday greetings to my best friend, Angela Diamond, on Nov. 2nd. Hope your day is as special as you are. Have a great time and if you party take it easy. From your best buddy in Wemindji. (NJ)

We would like to wish our buddy Jennifer Ottereyes a happy birthday on Nov. 4th, 95. We hope to see you soon. (Hopefully in Val d'Or.) From your buddies always, A & N (Wemindji)

Happy belated birthday to my best friend Bianca Wapachee on November 22, 95. You're really special, very kind and lots of fun to be with. I'm glad we're friends. Hope to see you soon. From your friend always, Angie D. (Wem)

Happy birthday to my auntie Emily W. Blackned on Dec. 3. Wishing you all the best in the years to come. Hugs and kisses from your little niece Taralyn weistche.

We wanna wish a happy belated birthday to our brother George D. (Pikogan) on Nov. 20 and many more to come. From sis Angela D. and Annette S. from Wemindji. xoxo 1/2.

I want to wish a happy birthday to Stephanie Eva Pachanos on Nov. 18. and to Christopher Pachano on Dec. 17. May your b-day be a special day for you both. With love, from Janie. (Chis)

Birthday greeting to one special girl, Sabrina on Dec. 5. We love you so much! Love always, Lillian and George N. and family. xoxoxox.

We want to wish a happy birthday to one special girl, Sabrina. Happy birthday on Dec. 5. We will always love you. From Mel, Krystle, Michael, Emma, Kevin and Jason Nakonee. xoxoxoxo.

Wishing you a very happy birthday, Sally Cooper, on Nov. 11. Sis and auntie your birthday is a good time to wish all the best in life. Luv, Mona and Adrian. Ojay.

I would like to wish a happy 11th birthday to my nephew Gabriel Shecapio B/smith on Nov. 13. Hope your dreams come true. From your aunt Mona and cuz Adrian. Ouje-Bougoumou.

Happy 19th birthday to my uncle Rene George Wapachee on Nov. 2, 95. Wishing you all the best. Party on dude! From your niece and friend, Esther. (Nemaska)

I would like to wish my 2 very good friends a birthday wish, Natasha Happyjack on Nov. 14 and Micheline Sag. on Nov. 13. Wishing yous the best. From your funny friend in Waswanipi. Quebec of Canada. Don't forget now; Barney.

I just wanted to say happy 14th birthday to my dear friend Edith B. on Nov. 20, 95. May your dreams come true. Hope you'll have fun on your special day. From your friend in Chisasibi, Sarah Ottereyes.

Happy birthday to my sweet and adorable niece, Natasha Grace. I love you so much with all my heart. I hope you enjoyed your birthday on November 5. From your step-aunt Rachael Blacksmith. I love you! Mist.

November 19 was a special day for our son, Lance. Happy 14th birthday. We love you so much. Love, Mom, Dad and Tyson. xoxoxoxo.

I wanna wish a happy birthday to my grandma Sally Atsynia on Nov. 26. I love U with all my heart. Hope U have many many more birthdays. I know I am only two but I will always try to be there for U when I grow up. Love, RJ. Wemindji. P.S. Without you I wouldn't have a name.

A happy birthday to Kitty on November 17. From friends as fine as you are don't often come one's way and special times like birthdays don't happen everyday and so this little greeting is coming to extend this wish. "A happy birthday" to a very special friend. Don't party too much! In friendship, Mona and Adrian Coonishish. xoxoxo. Ouje-Bougoumou.

Birthday wish going out to my brother Brian O. on Dec. 7. Hope you'll have fun on your day and don't party too much because you might wish you didn't drink the next day. From your bro Ghislain O.

I would like to wish a very happy birthday to one of my best friends, Shirley Sandy on Nov. 25, 95. I wish her all the best. From a friend.

Happy 1st birthday to our one and only son, Damon (Nov. 29). xoxox. From your mom, dad and your three sisters, Clari, Jo-Jo and Boodoo.

We wanna wish a happy birthday to Christopher Matches (Chis). His birthday was on Nov. 10/95. We hope you drank a lot of water on your birthday instead of you know what. Love always, Mom, Dad, your 2 sisters and Juanita.

Birthday wishes going out to Liz Matches on Nov. 17/95. (Chis) and to Betsy Matches (Goshie) on Nov. 21/95 in Mtl. You girls don't you dare fall in love with strangers or they'll break your hearts and to you "Goshie" your namesake wants you to stay sober. From everybody at Cluster B5, house #12.

Birthday wishes going out to Peggy Matches on Nov. 26/95 and to Freda Bobbish on Nov. 29/95 in Chisasibi. From Irene, Isaac, Edith, Rebecca and Juanita.

A birthday wish goes out to a special mom, Peggy Matches on Nov. 26/95. We love you so much. Love always, Sammy Boy and Shellyish (Nad).

We wanna wish a happy birthday to our mommy Freda Bobbish on Nov. 29/95. Happy birthday mommy and we love you. Love always, Dorrianna, Jeremyish and Linda-Rose.

We would like to wish a happy birthday to William Saganash in Waswanipi on Dec. 23rd. We hope you have a wonderful birthday. Don't party too much and we hope you and your family can come and visit. From Bea, Jacob, Stephane.

Wishing a happy birthday to our sweet and adorable granddaughter Winona Happyjack on November the 18th and many more wonderful birthdays coming your way. We love you very much. From grandma Emma and Grandpa Abel Happyjack. xoxoxoxo.

Birthday wish going out to my nephew Randy Kitchen on November the 27th. Hope you'll have a great one and many more to come. Love, your auntie Emma and Abel Happyjack. We miss you a lot. Hoping to see you soon. Take care.

Birthday wish to my niece Joy kitchen on November the 28th and many more to come. With all our love, Auntie Emma and Abel Happyjack.

We would like to wish a happy 2nd birthday to a sweet little girl, Sharona Dixon Happyjack, on Nov. the 24th. Hope your day will be as special as you are. And many more coming your way. With love and kisses, Tim

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Pompana and Josephine and Aaron Happyjack. xoxoxoxo.

Birthday wish going out to my cousin and friend Joy Kitchen on November the 28th and many more to come. Love, your cuz, Aaron Happyjack. xoxoxoxo.

I would like to wish a very happy birthday to a very tiny and sweet little boy on Dec. 4, Stephane Gilpin Jr., in Eastmain and to our little angel in Wemindji, Marlena Saganash, on Dec. 21. We love you both. From Mom, Dad and Jacob.

I would like to wish a happy birthday to my one and only son Clifford who will be celebrating his birthday on Nov. 30th at North Bay. I love you and miss you a lot. See you before Christmas. All my love and best wishes. From mom Hilda.

We would like to wish a very happy birthday to my husband and our dad Clifford Stephen who will be celebrating his birthday on Nov. 30th. Happy birthday and we love you very much. Thanks for everything Dad. from Joanne and your girls Courtney and Caitlin Stephen.

We wanna wish happy birthday to James Stevens celebrating his birthday on Nov. 17th. Happy birthday and many more to come. We love you and miss you a lot. From Clifford, Joanne and your granddaughters Courtney and Caitlin. North Bay.

Happy belated birthday going out to Paul David Pachanos on November 11. And happy first birthday to Dawn Rayne Pachanos on November 22. May the Creator bless you and take care for both of you. Love from Janie (Chis).

Happy 1st birthday to a beautiful baby girl, Dawn Rayne Jasmine Waabin Pachanos on November 22. We hope that you will always be happy as you are now. We love you. Your Mama Nicole and Daddy Paul.

I would like to wish a happy first birthday to a very special girl, Alexandra Napash on Dec. 1st, 1995. I want you to stay with us on Christmas Eve. From Rita.

I **would like** to wish my one and only son Calvin Reginald Robert Happyjack a happy second birthday on November 25/95. I still remember how happy I was when you were born. I still am because you make my life complete. With lots of love and care, Mommy (Anita R. Katapatuk)

We would like to wish a happy 1st birthday to our son Casey House on Nov. 19/95. Love always, Mom and Dad. Happy birthday and many more to come.

I would like to say happy birthday to my nephew Gordie Napash on Nov. 20/ 95. Happy birthday and many more to come.

Happy birthday to my nephew Maverick Swallow on December 8. From his uncle Billy Swallow.

Happy b-day to our son Ira G. on November 29. It's hard to find the words to tell you that you really are a special treasure, a source of pride, and you're loved more than you could ever imagine. From Mom and Dad.

Birthday greetings going out to our nephew Clifford Loon who is celebrating his birthday on December 22, 95 in North Bay, Ont. May your day be as special as you are. We miss you. Love from your auntie Natalie and Donald.

I would like to wish my two aunties a happy birthday, Louise Matoush on December 2 and to Sheila Matoush on December 16. Hope you have fun on your birthdays. With love from your niece Natasha.

Happy 1st birthday to a special little girl, Elizabeth Mary, on November 18. I may not be around much and yet you're always kept in mind. And every thought about you is warm and kind. Love ya! From friend (C.G.)

Happy 40 something to my wonderful and understanding mom on November 20/95. You're reaching 50 mom. Happy birthday. I hope you'll stay forever young. With lots of love. From your daughter Anita Katapatuk and your grandson Calvinsh.

I would like to wish a happy birthday to my buddy Natasha Happyjack on Nov. 14. I hope you enjoy your special day. Don't party too much. Take good care of yourself and your little baby girl. From your friend always and forever, Janie Eagle W. (See you soon in December)

We want to wish a happy belated birthday to our uncle Emmett Coonishish on Nov. 16, 95. Praying that your birthday was a wonderful beginning to a year filled with many special blessings. Due: 30:20. With lots of love, hugs and kisses. Adrian and Waapikun (Mist).

Happy belated birthday to my Grandpa Daniel on November 11 and to my grandma Emily on November 18. I love you both. From Grandson, Gabriel Blacksmith. xoxoxoxo.

Merry Christmas and happy birthday to a special friend, Caroline Shecapio, on December 25th. Happy birthday and many more to come.

Christmas Message

from Chief Matthew Mukash
December 1995

Christmas is a time to be joyful and happy, and a time to share. It is also the time to reflect upon the things that have happened to us since the last Christmas season and how we have conducted our lives since then. It is also the time to remember all those that departed from our world to live the world of no pain nor suffering. Most importantly, it is the time to concentrate on the children's happiness and well-being. Since this special event is a celebration of the birth of a special Child, it is only natural that children get the special attention that they deserve.

Let us also not forget our elders, who continue to carry symbols of love and respect and of survival. Let us remember that without them, we would not have survived to this day.

Let us share with one another not only the exchange of material gifts, but of love that the Creator has placed in our hearts, the greatest gift of all. Let us celebrate our survival and show the Creator our greatest appreciation for all that he has done for us being kind and generous to one another!

With that, I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
May the Great Creator watch over you always and bring you spiritual renewal, happiness and prosperity in the coming year!!!

Watchia!
Chief Matthew Mukash
Whapmagoostui (Eeyou Estchee)

CLASSIFIEDS

Friend always, Nannie B/Smith. Hey, don't even think of drinking on Christmas Eve. "Just kidding".

We would like to wish a happy birthday to our daughter Hannah Sealhunter on Nov. 26, 95. We love you very much. Love always, Mom, Dad, brothers and sisters.

I would like to wish a happy birthday to Diane Shecapio on Nov. 19. Hope you have fun on your birthday. From your sister-in-law.

Happy first birthday to my niece Denise Dawn-Sophia Katapatuk on Dec. 4/95, my nephew Redfern Edward on Dec. 17/95. Love ya both from auntie Anita (Wask). Oh! Happy birthday Noreen Moar on Dec. 17/95. Getting older?

I wanna wish happy belated birthdays to two of my friends, Lorraine Icebound in Was. on Nov. 1st and to Kimberley Hester in Wask. on Nov. 2nd. I hope you guys had a wonderful time on your b-days. From Louise.

We wanna wish happy 8th birthday to Katrina Gilpin jn Eastmain on Nov. 25/95. On this day next month you'll be opening your present from Santa. We wish you a very happy birthday. from everybody at Cluster B1-3 in Chisasibi. P.S. We love and miss you very much.

We wanna wish a belated birthday to our adorable, handsome nephew Albert A. Gilpin and to our cousin Anthony House on Oct. 5/95. You guys share the same birthdate with Mario Lemieux and Felix the Cat Potvin. You guys are very lucky to share the same day with two NHL players and wish you guys could be like them one day. With love, Louise and Marilyn.

Birthday greetings to Shayna Matoush (Wem) on Nov. 12. Happy 2nd birthday! With love, Donald, Natalie and Natasha.

A very happy birthday greetings going out to my mother Natalie on November 11 and to my uncle Clifford Loon on Nov. 13. Hope you both had a great day. Love from Natasha. P.S. Who loves you both so much.

I would like to wish a happy birthday to my best friend who is always there for me, Karen Ratt. She will celebrate her birthday on December 16. I am glad I have a kind friend! like you. Thank you for being there for me. You are a special friend. I thank the Creator that I have a real friend behind me that I can share and talk about how I feel. Happy birthday and many more to come. Hope your dreams and wishes come true. From your friend always, Connie.

I would like to wish a happy birthday to the woman I love and care for. To my wife Natalie Matoush who is celebrating her birthday on November 11/95. With all my love, your husband Donald (Mist).

I would like to say happy birthday to Noreen Moar on Dec. 17, 1995. Don't give up with the Lord. Keep on going. Love always, S.R.R.

I would like to wish a happy belated birthday to my sweet and shorty aunt, Geejan. You're how old? Over the hill. Wow and look at you, you're almost the same height as I am and I'm only five. Maybe next year, we'll be the same height or (I'll be a couple of centimetres taller) Ha Ha! Once again happy birthday, auntie. With lots of hugs and kisses from your little rascal nephew, Dakota Jules.

This special birthday wish is going out to a sweet and beautiful little girl, Caitlyn Gull, on the 29th of November. Sorry I can't be there to celebrate your first birthdays with you. Hope you have lots of fun and lots of gifts. Once again, happy first birthday, Caitlyn. With lots of hugs, kisses and love from Kitty.

Belated birthdays to our son Raymond K. on Oct. 7th and to our daughter Judy K. on Oct. 27th. Happy birthday to you both. We love and care about you. We'll always be there for you when you need us day or night. from your loving parents, Janie and Robert K. (Chisasibi).

We wanna wish happy belated birthdays to our brother Raymond K. on Oct. 7th and to our sister Judy K. on Oct. 27th. Happy birthday and many more to come. With love, your brother and sisters, John, Lorraine and Claudine K. (Chisasibi)

November 21st is a special day for our best friend, Betsie Matches in Montreal. Happy birthday and many more years to come. Sorry we cannot celebrate with you on your birthdays, maybe next time! Take care! Your friends always, Lorraine K. and Mary M. (Chis) P.S. Take really good care of Nancy for us. Please!!!

Wishing Andrea Moar (Wask) a happy birthday on December 20. With hugs and kisses. xoxox. All the way from Moosonee. Love always, your grandfather, Charlie Wischee.

This birthday greeting goes out to Michel Sealhunter on Nov. 18. I want to hear some more of that old-time country music... Hope you know how

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much I love you. Love and kisses from grandma, Nellie.

Happy birthday to Terry Sealhunter on Nov. 21 and to Diane Shecapio on Nov. 19. You're both so special to me and you are a joy and sunshine in my old age. Love you both very much always remember that. Hugs and kisses from grandma Nellie.

Wishing a happy 1st birthday to Matthew Paul Sealhunter on Nov. 12. Are you walking yet? I hope you come to visit me sometimes before you reach you teens. Have a good day and many more to come. All my love and kisses from Grandma Nellie.

Wishing a very happy birthday to my sweetheart in Rouyn, Que. by the name of Roland. Nov. 17 is your special day. How are you doing? Hope you have a good time on your birthday. Good luck in your first year of pee-wee hockey and may all your dreams come true. Thinking of you... Love and kisses from someone on Cluster C1, Chisasibi. P.S. Hi, Barbara, it's me again!

Birthday wishes going out to Harold Whiskeychan on Dec. 14, 95. We hope you had a great time on your special day. We love you brother, take care! From your bros and sisters (Wask).

Happy birthday to you, happy birthday to you, Happy birthday dear uncle Harold. I love you, you love me, we're a happy family, with lots of love, hugs and kisses. Your niece Caitlinsh. Happy birthday on Dec. 14th, 95.

I would like to wish a happy birthday to Elaine Moses on November 22. 95. "Tonite it's party time, it's party time." Have a wonderful birthday. Take care. From your wrapper buddy, you know me.

Happy birthday to our son Harold W. on December 14, 95. You brought happiness all through these years. We love you very much. Happy birthday from Mom and Dad (Wask).

Birthday greetings to Diane Shecapio on November 19... Life holds no promises as to what will come your way... But if you are willing to believe in your dreams and yourself... Life is a precious gift in which anything is possible... So believe in your dreams, now is the time to reach out for the next star. Always keep your dreams alive and they will come true. Happy birthday and many more to come. From Margaret (Chis)

To Barbara Snowboy in Rouyn, Quebec. B-day is Nov. 26... Always remember, you are stronger than you think. Every problem you encounter strengthens your mind and your soul. When all your troubles weigh heavily on your shoulders remember that beneath the burden you can stand tall, because you are never given more than you can handle. May all your birthday wishes come true. From your friend in Chisasibi, Cluster C1-15. P.S. Kisses to your sons.

Happy birthdays to Hannah Sealhunter and Barbara Snowboy on November 26. All my love and kisses from Grandma Nellie (Chis).

I want to wish a happy 2nd birthday to my special daughter Georgina on Nov. 4, 1995 from Nemaska. "You are my sunshine, my only sunshine, you make me happy, when skies are grey, you'll never know dear, how much I love you, please don't take my sunshine away." I wish you all the best and many more to come. May God richly bless you on your special day and we love you so much. From Mom and Clint, Keith. xoxoxo.

I want to wish my friend Lisa Wapachee happy birthday on Nov. 4/ 95 from Nemaska. Hope you will be happy on your special day because you really deserve it. I wish you all the best and many more to come. I'm glad that you are my friend. You're always there for me when I needed someone to talk to. You know how to talk to someone. You always make me laugh. Thanks again. God bless you. Friend always, Maudie.

This birthday wish goes out to our brother Kenneth (KC) Macleod who turns 19 on November 13. We're thinking of you on your birthday. Love, Pam, Emmett and Theresa.

Happy birthday to two great friends, Jennifer Mianscum on Nov. 21 and Peggy Petawabano on Nov. 14. Wishing you both all the best. Love, Pam.

For many friendships come and go throughout one's life and yet, I'm glad to have a friend in you L.M. Brien. Happy birthday buddy!!

Happy birthday to my uncle RC Macleod on November 13. Hope you had a great birthday. Can't wait to see you in December. Love, Kenny.

I would like to wish a special birthday to my sister Natakie Mataham on Dec. 12/95. Happy birthdays and many more to come. Wishing you all the best. From Wendy.

I would like to wish a happy birthday to a wonderful sister, Rose Iserhoff, on Dec. 13/95. May your day be as special as you are. With love from your sister in Eastmain.

We would like to send our and birthday greetings to our precious little girl Natalie Moses who will blow out her very first candle on Dec. 12/95. Hope your day will be as special as you are. Love always, Mommy and Daddy (Wendy and John).

Merry Christmas to my daddy Bernard and also I hope you have a great birthday on 01/2/30. Love, your son Cody.

Wishing a happy birthday to Phillip Cooper on Dec. 10. Sorry I couldn't be there. I hope you'll enjoy your day. See you soon (really soon). From Shirley.

Happy sweet 16th to my cuz and best friend, Hannah Sealhunter, on November 26/95. May your dreams come true. take care. From your buddy, Paula (Darla). B friends 4-ever. xoxoxo.

On December 31, 11:05 p.m. we would like to wish a special happy birthday to our adorable son, Jeremiah Hannan B. Coon-Come. He will be celebrating his 5th birthday. "Happy birthday son," God's blessings be with you on your birthday and guide you every single day. We love you soooo much. Each of us, with a great, great, great big hug and kiss. Love yah! From us, Daddy, Samuel, Mommy Denise. Also sis Yolanda and Clayton Coon-Come.

102-WEDDINGS

I would like to say congratulations to my aunt Natalie Orr and her husband Norman Neacappo on November 3, 1995. Best wishes. Take good care of each other! Have a loving life. From your niece Katrina Orr (Nem) XOXOXOXO.

We wish you all the best this festive season! Thank you for shopping with us.

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